



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

January 16, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: AGC-DOT Joint Cooperative Committee Members

FROM: E. C. Powell, Jr., PE
State Construction Engineer

SUBJECT: Minutes to the Joint Committee Meeting

The Joint Cooperative Committee of the AGC-DOT met at 10:00 AM on November 28, 2006, in the Chief Engineer's Conference Room at the NCDOT Maintenance and Equipment Facility located on Beryl Road in Raleigh.

Members and attendees present included:

Victor Barbour	Berry Jenkins	Kalliopi Sgouros
Kevin Burns	Drew Johnson	Ron Shaw
Alan Cahill	Cecil Jones	Shannon Sweitzer
Bill Capehart	Bob Lofling	Jimmy Travis
Bill Copeland	Michael Long	Steve Varnedoe
Steven DeWitt	Michelle Long	Ricky Vick
C. A. Gardner	Jeff Mann	Don Voelker
Randy Garris	Graham Moore	Sim Wooten Jr.
Brad Goodson	Ellis Powell	Jim Wyngaarden
Ron Hancock	Len Sanderson	

Mr. Len Sanderson announced his retirement at the end of 2006 and extended his appreciation to the contractors and DOT committee members for their cooperation and support through his 37-year professional career with the Department.

AGENDA

Transportation Leadership Team..... Len Sanderson

- Mr. Sanderson advised that the Transportation Leadership Team was established in order to bring together Industry representatives, DOT, FHWA, NCTA, CAPA, and Municipalities in a collaborative effort to further transportation initiatives in the state. The following goals were established by the Transportation Leadership Team:

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CONSTRUCTION UNIT
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RALEIGH NC 27699-1543

TELEPHONE: 919-733-2210
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WEBSITE: WWW.DOT.STATE.NC.US

LOCATION:
TRANSPORTATION BUILDING
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH NC

Dealing with emerging issues such as development, procuring, and delivering of projects;

Address quality of product (workforce) and contract administrative issues;

3) Cost containment;

4) Communication-internal to DOT, Industry and the Public.

- Mr. Sanderson stated that the first meeting took place a few weeks ago. The Leadership Team will begin by establishing a commitment to work together and move transportation forward.
- The second meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2006. Strategy to follow is to divide the team into small work groups to address problems, issues and achieve goals. Mr. Berry Jenkins added that the team members need to agree on philosophies and share information with the groups that are represented. New and innovative approaches are being discussed by plotting the future and not reacting to it.

N.C. Turnpike Authority Progress.....Steven DeWitt

- Mr. Steven DeWitt reported the following updates of the North Carolina Turnpike Authority(NCTA):
 - A training session took place last week for the environmental process, which seems to be progressing as scheduled.
 - The first project advertisement for bids will be in May 2007, for the Triangle Parkway and a portion of the Western Wake Expressway.
 - Mr. DeWitt stated that certain legislative issues need to occur next year concerning toll roads. Charlotte is studying how tolls can help with the city's transportation needs. Mr. DeWitt recommends that similar studies be performed throughout the state.
 - Mr. DeWitt also recommended streamlining the environmental process and the introduction of individual project coordination plans.
- Mr. Jenkins stated that several urban areas around the state are beginning to question whether they are getting appropriate return on their money. The Legislative climate is beginning to change to more urban and suburban interests. For the League of Municipalities, transportation is already a top priority. Bonds are also being discussed to address transportation needs.

3D Modeling GPS Grading and Stakeout.....Berry Jenkins

- Mr. Jenkins stated that the AGC has contacted the NC Licensing Board and scheduled a meeting for December 12, 2006 to clarify the new ruling which was discussed at the last committee meeting regarding licensures and the utilization of electronic plans.

- Mr. Shannon Sweitzer updated the committee on electronic plans. The *Davis Drive* project was advertised this month and Digital Terrain Modeling (DTM) files may be downloaded from the NCDOT web site. Available information includes the age of the project photography and how it was developed especially in obscured areas.
- Mr. Jenkins requested the status of improving final quantity calculations and commented that the excavation quantities are typically the largest contract line items under dispute.
- Mr. Ellis Powell commented that changes were made three years ago to include a new Special Provision/Note in plans for unclassified excavation for pavement on large projects. Now, the Department is not using templates; instead, it is using plan quantities. The industry should begin to see the results of these changes on current projects.
- Mr. Sweitzer advised that as the Department moves toward the 3D design, there would be more accurate design data, which may help in calculating plan quantities.
- Mr. Powell added that in regards to sub-contractors' quantity disputes, one solution that is being considered is for the contractors to keep their own records of quantities and to submit those records to the Department on a monthly basis. This proposed process would provide an opportunity for quantity disputes to be settled at the project level as the project progresses.
- Mr. Powell advised that the "closeout conferences" are going well and suggested setting meeting dates to review final project quantities. A similar final claims meeting to discuss any outstanding claims may also be considered.
- Mr. Jenkins expressed that the Industry has mixed reviews of the project "closeout conferences".

Contractor/DOT Conferences for Winter 2007-Update.....Ron Hancock

- Mr. Ron Hancock announced the finalized dates and locations of the Contractor/DOT Conferences. A letter will follow next week addressed to all the committee members in regards to further details. Details of the conference are now being finalized. The length of all Conferences will be a day and a half and the registration fee will remain approximately the same as last year.

OTHER ISSUES

Claims

- Mr. Jenkins stated that the Industry is not pleased with the entire claims process - at the project level, how the claims are resolved, verified claims process, and court proceedings. Mr. Jenkins suggested an alternate dispute resolution process including a board to review the issues associated with claims. He questioned whether the current process is the appropriate process and/or whether this process needs improvement.
- Mr. Powell commented that three years ago active claims were assigned to the Bridge and Roadway Construction Engineers and there has been an improvement in the turn around time

even while receiving a consistent number of claims. Mr. Powell indicated that the Department is still reviewing the claims process and that Mr. Jenkins' suggestion will be taken into consideration.

- Mr. DeWitt added that the overhead issue keeps recurring; changes can be made but the process needs to be in accordance with the specifications to be binding.
- Mr. Sanderson advised that the Assignment of Risk is very important and also needs to be considered.

Concrete Pavement Removal/ASR (Alkali-Silica Reactivity) Concrete Mix Designs

- Mr. Powell advised that a Ready mix producer did not follow the approved project mix design and used a non-approved mix design, which included reactive aggregates. This error will require the removal of concrete pavement due to the increased potential for deterioration of the concrete. The concrete placed on a bridge deck is also in question.
- Problems with reactive aggregates were discovered in the mid-80's and the specifications since have mitigated the potential of deterioration issues by combining certain cements with certain reactive aggregates through mix design approvals.
- Mr. Cecil Jones remarked that the root cause of the problem is inattention to detail in combining certain aggregates with certain cement. Since there is no reliable short-term test to determine this problem, Contractor and Department personnel should be aware of this issue.
- Mr. Sanderson indicated that the Department should distribute a technical bulletin on this subject.
- The following is a list of **Quarries with ASR Problems**:

Owner	Location	Quarry Number
Hanson	Princeton	CA64
Martin Marietta	Asheboro	CA30
	Bakers	CA32
	Ponoma	CA51
	Thomasville	CA102
Vulcan	Gold Hill	CA85

DBE Participation

- Mr. DeWitt advised that the FHWA is participating in the publication of a DBE Field Guide by the National AGC. This is a simple guide with practical guidelines for field personnel.
- Mr. Powell added that Shannon Sweitzer has also developed a similar guide for use in North Carolina.

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- Mr. Sanderson emphasized the importance of this issue, which is of national interest and should be emphasized within companies.

AGC/DOT Committee Meeting Dates for Year 2007

January 18

March 22

May 17

July 19

September 20

November 29

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2007, at 10:00 A.M. in the Chief Engineer's Conference Room at the NCDOT Maintenance and Equipment facility located, at 4809 Beryl Road in Raleigh.

KS:kdI

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Mr. Dan DeVane

Mr. W. D. Riddick

Mr. Roberto Canales, PE

Mr. W. F. Rosser, PE

Mr. W. S. Varnedoe, PE

Ms. D. M. Barbour, PE

Mr. S. D. DeWitt, PE

Mr. J. G. Nance, PE

Mr. L. D. Love, PE

Mr. B. G. Jenkins, Jr., PE

Mr. C. L. Jones, PE

Mr. J. V. Barbour, PE

Mr. Art McMillan, PE

Mr. C. W. Leggett, PE